

rights regimes, she concludes, are not sufficient to support environmental claims.

In addressing environmental sustainability, Woods provides a clear and well-referenced study about what “sustainability” actually encompasses, addressing the tension between ecocentrism (in which nature has intrinsic value) and anthropocentrism (in which nature has an instrumental value). She eventually rejects this dichotomy, arguing that both models have the potential to put forward environmental claims. She supports the weak anthropocentric approach, since this approach embodies humans as ecologically embedded. She then explores models of environmental economics to establish whether they can address relevant issues related to sustainability: the tragedy of the commons linked to environmental discounting and intergenerational justice. Woods concludes that the notion of “ecological” or “ecosystem” integrity is the appropriate benchmark of sustainability, conceptualizing the integrity of the ecosystem as “a function of stresses to which the environment is exposed” (p. 97). She identifies environmental citizenship as a route, but an insufficient one, to put forward ecological integrity claims.

In this analysis, human rights and environmental protection commitments are ultimately interdependent. Human rights will guarantee that environmental politics do not become oppressive. Human rights can also help foster a consensus around the notion of ecological integrity. At the same time, environmental integrity issues can transform human rights when the two are considered together.

Woods provides nuanced conclusions: unity among environmental claims and human rights language and regimes should neither be taken as guaranteed nor denied. There is a need to carefully assess the limits inherent to human rights, such as chronic underfulfillment of goals or the limited capacity of human rights to embody the intergenerational dimension of environmental claims. In other words, environmental human rights are part of the “green political toolkit” (p. 144).

This study will be useful for any scholar, public officer, or environmental activist engaged in environmental or human rights protection activities. Although it might have been useful to include greater attention to regional human rights regimes, Woods mixes both theoretical reasoning with concrete examples that can provide activists with new approaches to protecting both human rights and the environment.

Carmody, Pádraig. 2011. *The New Scramble for Africa*. Cambridge, UK, and Malden, MA: Polity Press.

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What explains China’s decision to send navy warships to the coast of Somalia to participate in a multi-country military effort to minimize piracy? To date,

China's formal, multilateral peacekeeping operations in sub-Saharan Africa have been in noncombat-related support positions and have been hugely disproportionate to the size of its military and to the contributions that countries like Pakistan, India, and Bangladesh have made. At a time when China's international cooperation with Western countries on security and environmental issues is unusual or fraught, its participation in a multi-country military patrol of the Gulf of Aden seems anomalous.

Pádraig Carmody's impressive new book reveals that the events in the Gulf of Aden are not so much unusual as simply a visible expression of a dramatic change in the way that historically dominant Western nations and non-Western nations are exercising their interests in Africa. One comes to appreciate that China's participation in policing the Gulf of Aden is, like other countries actively engaged in African states, motivated by a dominant economic rationale: to keep trade routes open and to ensure continued access to African resources. While the naval patrols are an overt expression of Chinese, European, United States, and Indian efforts (among others) to maintain the global flow of commodities, Carmody's book reveals just how deeply Africa is intertwined in the reordering of global economic and political relations.

Attention to China's role in Africa has been mounting in recent years, with media coverage of its relationship with Sudan, for example, and due to international nongovernmental organizations reporting on an increasing number of international firms being given or leasing vast tracts of land for export-oriented agricultural production in various countries such as Ethiopia. But what has been less acknowledged is how China's engagement with Africa has evolved; how it compares to that of countries with deep historic, often colonial ties to the African subcontinent; and how other emerging, dominant economies like Brazil and India are also competing for influence and resource access in Africa.

Carmody engages with existing theories and arguments about development and underdevelopment in Africa, and challenges readers to consider the outcome of China's "flexigemonic" relationship with African states (p. 76); that is, its unwillingness to force African states to change their behavior and to instead work through and with existing governments to gain access to resources and markets. The argument presented is not that traditional, often colonial, countries are losing their place or minimizing their presence in Africa—France, for example, maintains 60,000 troops in Africa—but that the presence of Brazil, India, and China, in particular, is altering how all non-African states engage with African governments, and how resource access, extraction, and processing factor into this evolution.

From the comprehensive review of competing explanations of Africa's bilateral relations and underdevelopment, to chapters addressing, fish, timber, uranium, coltan, export processing zones, oil, land, and diamonds, the book offers countless vivid examples for why a new set of analytical tools is needed to understand Africa's place in the global politics of resources. Carmody mines existing literature and evidence on bilateral engagement with African states and complements this with independent fieldwork in several countries. In this way,

the book parallels an excellent review article: it engages with a rich diversity of theory and evidence, presents a herculean compilation of information, and raises many unanswered questions that can serve as a guide for future research. Not surprisingly, when a book covers this much theoretical ground, addresses an area of research that is underexplored, and presents this volume of evidence on so many sectors and countries, the opportunity to delve deeply into critical observations and questions is reduced.

For example, one of the richest chapters in the book, based on primary research, is one that examines China's engagement in Zambia. After explaining China's opening of economic zones in the country and providing evidence of local resistance to the zones and Chinese in-migration, Carmody asks whether these zones "merely expand the terms and conditions of labor in the informal economy into the formal manufacturing sector creating a hybrid space, the (in)formal economy: new spaces of (Chinese) globalization" (p. 165). The argument that some new division of labor centered on multiple patterns of resource extraction and use is emerging, and that this emergence is driven by the mode of Chinese engagement with a poor African state is novel, alarming, and intriguing.

Yet in this case, readers are left to wonder whether this situation is unique to a resource-rich African state (Zambia) or whether this pattern is likely to repeat itself in other countries. Equally, students of global politics may wonder how multilateral organizations factor into the new scramble "for" and "in" Africa. Many UN agencies that play a central role in land and natural resources in sub-Saharan Africa, such as the World Food Programme (WFP) or Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), are not discussed in the book. Likewise, the evidence of, and potential for, domestic or global civil society to resist the "new scramble for Africa" is unclear. The book gives the sense that resistance is minimal or ineffectual in altering these new paths of economic and political engagement, yet the continent is ripe with examples of resistance to resource extraction.

This book should have wide appeal. It is insightful and provocative and presents nuanced, critical arguments about Africa's past and future place in global affairs. Anyone wishing to develop a better understanding of Africa's position in the global political economy of natural resources will be treated to a rare and nuanced examination by reading this book. It skillfully handles the complex history and theories of Africa's underdevelopment and provides much guidance to scholars and advocates wishing to have a deeper, critical understanding of the challenges African states will confront in this century as they try to build on the human and natural resources with which they have been so endowed.